The Times.

THE TIMES COMPANY.

TIMES BUILDING,
TENTH AND BANK STREETS,
RICHMOND, VA.

THE WEEKLY TIMES—Issued and mailed in two parts—One dollar a year by mail—anywhere in the United States.

Address all communications and correspondence to The Times Company.

Reading Notices, in reading-matter type 25 cents per line.

Cards of advertising rates for space furnished on application.

Remit by draft, check, postoffice order, or registered letter. Currency sent by mail is at the risk of the sender.

Times Telephones: Business Office—New 'Phone, 251; Old 'Phone, 548. Editorial Rooms—New 'Phone, 61; Old 'Phone, 938. Composing Rooms—New 'Phone, 252.

Specimen copies free.

All subscriptions by mail payable in advance. Watch the label on your paper, if you live out of Richmond, and see when your subscription expires, so you can renew before the paper is stopped.

THE TIMES COMPANY.

MANCHESTER BUREAU, 1121 HULL STREET.

PETERSBURG AGENT, S. C. HUTCHINSON, 7 LOMBARD STREET.

The Times is always indebted to friends who favor it with society items and personals, but must urge that all such be sent over the signature of the sender.

All unsigned communications will be rejected always.

THE DAILY TIMES is served by carriers on their own account in this city and Manchester, for 10 cents a week, when paid weekly, but 50c. per month, when paid monthly, by mail, outside of Richmond, 50 cents a month, $5.03 a year—anywhere in the United States.

THE MAILING LIST IS ONLY PRINTED ABOUT EVERY TEN DAYS, THEREFORE, DO NOT FEEL UNEASY IF THE DATE OPPOSITE YOUR NAME ON THE LITTLE PINK SLIP IS NOT CHANGED AS SOON AS THE SUBSCRIPTION IS RENEWED.

WE DESIRE TO CALL THE ATTENTION OF ALL PERSONS SENDING POLITICAL NEWS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS TO THE TIMES TO THE NECESSITY OF SIGNING THEIR NAMES TO SUCH REPORTS, AS IT IS THE RULE OF THIS PAPER NOT TO PUBLISH ANY ARTICLE THE NAME OF WHOSE AUTHOR IS UNKNOWN. REJECTED CONTRIBUTIONS WILL NOT BE RETURNED UNLESS ACCOMPANIED BY STAMPS.

The price of The Times is two cents per copy and ten cents per week, or if paid monthly, 50 cents per month, delivery within the limits of Richmond and Manchester. Sunday paper three cents.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 1898.

IS THE BOYCOTT LAWFUL.

We gave a few days back the facts of the very important trades unions case, Allen vs. Flood, decided by the English House of Lords, on the 14th of December last, and remarked at the time that we thought the actual point decided was correctly decided, but that some things were said by some of the judges constituting those who established the law of the case that we could not assent to. We propose briefly to review those points this morning. Several of the law lords in delivering their opinions, argued that an act which was lawful in itself could never become unlawful by reason of the motive and animus that inspired it. This is a doctrine which may lead to consequences of unparalleled importance, and it is proper that the most critical examination should be given to it before it is unqualifiedly accepted.

It should be said in the first instance that the doctrine in question was not necessary to the decision of the case actually before the House. The essential facts of that case were that one set of men objected to working with another set of men, and notified their employer through a third party that they would quit his employment if the others remained. The employer discharged the workmen complained of, and, when they sued the man who carried the message of the discontented workmen, the court decided that he was not liable. It is clear that the discontented men had a right to leave if they pleased, and for any cause that suited them, they had a right to so notify their employer, and, as they had the right to do it themselves, they had an equal right to send the message by an agent. It would have been enough to say this and stop. Accordingly, the question submitted by the Law Lords to the judges who were called in to hear the case argued as advisors, was simply "assuming the evidence given by the plaintiff's witnesses to be correct, was there any evidence of a cause of action fit to be left to the jury?" There was no evidence of malice upon the part of the person sued towards the men who were discharged, and, therefore, the question properly took no notice of malice, and none was, therefore, involved in the case. All that the case decides, therefore, is that an agent who performs the part of a "go between," as this one did, incurs no liability.

But judges of the very highest eminence discussed the question of malice, and declared that its presence could not make a lawful action unlawful, and this is a matter, therefore, which should be examined closely.

It is to be noted first that ever since Sir John Holt, one of the greatest judges England has ever had, decided the case of Keeble vs. Hickeringill, two hundred years ago, it has been an accepted doctrine of the common law that while a man might have a perfect right to do a thing when he did it in good faith for his own benefit, yet if he did it with the malicious purpose of causing another an injury, he would be liable to that other. This has been many times reaffirmed in England in cases cited in the Mogul Steamship case, and in that of Allen vs. Flood—the one now under consideration. And, in that case, although according to English procedure, eight judges made the law of the case, yet thirteen judges of equal rank and dignity, including the Lord Chancellor, who heard the case at one stage or another, held most distinctly that the old principle regarding malice was sound. So far as authority goes, therefore, it is overwhelmingly upon the side of the proposition that malice in the mind and heart of a person may cause an act to be unlawful, which would be lawful if the act were done with a good intention.

When we came to the reason of the thing it seems impossible to doubt the soundness of the proposition. The authorities of the city of Richmond allow fire crackers to be set off in the streets on certain days. If a horse gets frightened at one of these explosions no one will be liable. But suppose A. not intending to set off any, sees B whom he hates, riding along the street and, to gratify his malicious feelings against him issues from his house and furtively throws fire crackers under his horse's feet for the purpose of frightening him and making him run away. If the horse does run and hurts B is it to be said A is not liable?

Two next door neighbors, in a thickly populated city, have their houses built upon twenty feet for each, with their back porches fronting to each other, so that a noise upon one penetrates every part of the other house. A, the occupant of one, loves the music of a hand organ. He has an undoubted right to grind the hand organ on his back porch while he is enjoying its music, even if it does bring discomfort to his neighbor. But B, the occupant of the next house, is in a highly nervous state so that the noise of a hurdy-gurdy causes him the utmost distress. A is his enemy and hates him with a mortal hatred. Has he a right to hire an Italian to grind his hand organ on his back porch all day long and day after day for the purpose of torturing B and possibly ending his life. Our laws would be no more than a mockery if they could tolerate such conduct. We cannot believe for a moment that the English courts will adopt the views of the Law Lords in this case, or that the American courts will ever abandon a principle that has been recognized by many of them ever since we have had a jurisprudence.

In delivering his opinion Lord Watson, discussing the proposition, used the following language:

"Even in that more limited application it would lead, in some cases, to singular results. One who committed an act not in itself illegal, but attended with consequences detrimental to several other persons would incur liability to those of them whom it was proved that he intended to injure, and the rest of them would have no remedy. A master who dismissed a servant engaged from day to day, or whose contract of service had expired, and declined to give him further employment because he disliked the man and desired to punish him would be liable in an action for tort."

Lord MacNaghten in delivering his opinion upon the point says:

"Suppose a man takes a transfer of debt with which he has no concern for the purpose of ruining the debtor, and then makes him bankrupt out of spite and so intentionally causes him to lose some benefits under a will or settlement; suppose a man declines to give a servant a character because he is offended with the servant for leaving; suppose a person of position takes away his custom from a country tradesman in a small village merely to injure him on account of some fancied grievance not connected with their dealings in the way of buying and selling—no one, I think, would suggest that there could be any remedy at law in any of those cases."

These two extracts contain about the whole of the real argument that was made on that side of the question.

It must be obvious to any one that both of these judges put cases of both passive and active conducts. Of course there can be no action against a man who dismisses a servant engaged from day to day, who refuses to give a servant no longer in his employment a character, or who ceases to deal with a tradesman that he had been dealing with, whatever his motive might have been. He was under no obligation to do any one of these things, and he might refrain from doing them at his pleasure whether he had a clean mind and heart or whether he had a bad, malicious one. To sue him would be no more than holding him responsible for being a black hearted man.

But is it clear that Lord Watson's man who took positive action or Lord MacNaghten's who did the same would have been free from liability?

The man who took action against those he hated would have done an unlawful thing, and if a person he did not hate was injured by his unlawful act, why should he not be liable to him? In the case of the fire crackers that we have put, if A, in addition to frightening B's horse had also frightened that of C and made it run away and hurt C, why should he not answer to C also? His act in throwing the fire crackers at B's horse would have been unlawful, and why should he not answer for all the consequences of his unlawful act? And in the case put by Lord McNaghten, why should not the man who maliciously caused the other one to lose his benefit under the will be liable for malicious act. If he had taken an assignment of the debt in good faith and suing for it had caused the debtor's ruin, it would have been damnum absque injuria. But if he was simply a volunteer, meddling with the matter only to procure the debtor's ruin, it seems to us that the case would be in no respect different from that of the fellow popping crackers.

We have made this lenghty and critical examination of this case because it is far more than an ordinary law case. It is one of those law cases which touches the social relations of man as a member of society and the doctrine we have been reviewing is vital to the peace and order of society in large industrial communities.

If irresponsible men are to be permitted to do in combination and with a malicious motive whatever might be lawful when done by one man with a good motive, no one can tell what disorders will arise from it. But if the combined actions of men who act from bad motives are condemned by the law, then there is a most wholesome restraint placed upon the mob.

It is gratifying to know that at least two of the Law Lords who constituted the majority in this case, pointedly declared that they had no idea of giving their assent to boycotts or other oppressive combinations.

SPEAK OUT, GOVERNOR.

The Portsmouth Star quotes that portion of Governor Tyler's inaugural address, relating to honest elections, and says that his words will stimulate to renewed efforts those who have been striving so long and, apparently, so hopelessly, for the overthrow of Virginia's dishonest election laws. The Star adds:

It may be that in uttering these words Governor Tyler did not take himself seriously. He may have spoken these plain, brave words as mere platitudes suitable to the occasion. Or he may have thus voiced deep and honest conviction, wrought in him upon taking up the duties and responsibilities of his exalted position as Governor of Virginia.

But the mental attitude of Governor Tyler, while thus indicating to the people of Virginia that they are living under a debauched suffrage, is in many respects a matter of indifference. The important fact is, that, in the hearing of all men, the Governor of Virginia has declared that it is the first duty of Virginians "to forever set the seal of their condemnation upon the bold effrontery of those who would debauch the people's suffrages and pervert their will by the shameless use of money and the power of combination, influences."

This, we believe, is the beginning of the end of our damnable election system.

We know of no one who has fought more vigorously and more earnestly for election reforms than The Times, and we welcome any and every expression from whatever source in advocacy of honest elections.

We are gratified at the position that Governor Tyler has taken on this question in the beginning of his administration, but we are still disappointed that he stopped with a reference to bribery, for that is not the whole evil, nor is it, in our opinion, as some have asserted, the root of the evil. Bribe-givers should, undoubtedly, be apprehended and punished as they deserve, but so also should those who stuff the ballot boxes, who cheat qualified voters out of their votes, and who make false returns.

Let us not go at this thing in a halfway fashion. While we are at it let us wipe out the whole corrupt system and purify the ballot. Let us be rid of every species of election corruption.

We take it that Governor Tyler will have something more to say on this subject to the Legislature, and, in the interest of good morals and good government, we hope that his message will deal not only with one species of fraud, but will be broad enough and definite enough to cover the whole case. His Excellency has a great opportunity to do the people of this Commonwealth a distinct service, and we trust that he will not falter.

LET IT COME TO THE TEST.

We have already made mention of the fact that the Georgia Legislature during its last session adopted a measure providing for the preliminary steps for a State banking law. Under it the Governor is authorized to appoint a committee which shall examine into the condition of the currency and report a banking system to the next Legislature. The Governor has appointed the committee and the work will go on.

The Vicksburg (Miss.) Herald in referring to this matter, says:

The incorporation and establishment of State banks of issue under this law, when passed, will at once bring on a test of the constitutionality of the war statute taxing such currency out of existence. This is something which will be regarded with the utmost interest throughout the Union.

We would like very much to have an opinion from the present Supreme Court as to the constitutionality of this prohibitory tax on Sate banks of issue. We know that the court, differently constituted, has declared that the tax is constitutional, bu the decision was by no means unanimous and very strong dissenting opinions were handed down.

The object of all taxation is to raise revenue, and the government has no right, under the Constitution, to levy a tax for any other purpose. It is well known that this tax has never produced a cent of revenue, being prohibitory, and Mr. Sherman frankly confesses in his book that the avowed purpose of the act was not to raise revenue, but to prohibit State banks from issuing notes.

Moreover, it is clearly in contravention of that great principle of equal and uniform taxation to impose a small tax upon the issues of national banks and a prohibitory tax upon the issues of State banks.

It is many years since the Supreme Court passed upon this question, and we hope that the action of the Georgia Legislature may have the effect of carrying the case up once more that the former decision of the court may be reviewed.

A FRANK UTTERANCE AT LAST.

During the campaign of 1896 one of the chiefest objections urged by a certain class of Democrats against the Chicago platform was the fact that one of the planks of that platform, as they understood it, threatened to pack the Supreme Court of the United States in the interest of party measures. It was denied, however, by the free silver contingent, or at least by many of them, that the plank referred to had any such meaning, and Senator Daniel has recently declared that he did not so construe it.

But there can be no question as to the meaning of the following editorial paragraph which we clip from the Louisville Dispatch, the recognized organ in Kentucky of the free silver party. The Dispatch says:

The legislature of Kentucky should turn its attention to the trusts. While we have a general trust law it is practically inoperative; and it is perhaps in need of some amendment. The Federal Courts have destroyed the anti-trust law passed by Congress and the Dingley bill has called new trusts into existence, and given additional protection to the old ones. Cleveland practically surrendered on the trust question before he retired from office, so far as congressional action is concerned, and he recommended action by the States. The Democratic party must fight trusts. It should fight them in the State and national legislatures, and through the courts. The Federal Courts are rotten on this question, as they are on all questions affecting monopolies, thereore the Democratic party must see to it that the Federal judiciary is reformed when it gets in control of Congress and the presidency.

Here is a distinct declaration in plain, unmistakable language that the Federal courts shall be packed in the interest of so-called anti-trust legislation. We cannot but accept this expression of the Dispatch as the sentiment of those whom it represents, and its bold and frank avowal simply goes to confirm the opinion of those who held and who hold that in the Chicago platform was a threat to pack the United States Supreme Court. Surely this ought to open the eyes of some of those who stood by the Chicago platform in 1896.

ALL EYES ON NEW ENGLAND.

A proposition has been made by a New England cotton mill owner to the people of Asheville, N. C., whereby he proposes under certain conditions to remove his factory to that town, promising to bring with him about 2,000 operatives. His plan is to capitalize his plant at a given amount, taking the stock himself and then bond the mill for a like amount, he himself taking one-third of the bonds.

We confess to some little misgivings when propositions of this character are made, for usually the meaning is that the concern is pretty well broken down where it is and wants to recuperate by getting money out of the community in which it would locate.

But whatever be the bona fides of the proposition above referred to, the facts is that the New England manufacturers of cotton goods are in a fix, and there is a disposition on the part of many of them to remove their plants to Southern territory, and the time is ripe, it seems to us, for Southern cities to bestir themselves and offer such inducements as they may to the New England factories to change their location.

We cannot but believe that with proper effort Richmond could locate one or more New England cotton factories on the banks of the James, and the subject is well worth the attention of the Chamber of Commerce. That organization begins the New Year with the determination to bring new factories here and New England is at this time a most promising field in which to operate.

A Texas prophet announces that New York city will be destroyed next April. This is, however, only intended, perhaps, for the first of that month.

Kurtz in German means "short," and that is the way he seems to have caught Mark Hanna.

It is reported that a Southern poet has been robbed of $5. Perhaps that is the sum at which he valued the manuscript that he lost.

A Harvard scientist remarks that "a bear is not a savage animal." He has evidently never run across one in a wheat pit.

The Luetgert trial seems to have about reached a stage where they must give trading stamps or trot out Mrs. Luetgert to hold the crowd.

Seth Low has subscribed $1,000 for the Henry George Monument. He must expect to be running again soon.

The latest Cuban news is that Blanco is going to take the field. So he is dropping into the Weyler habit of taking things, too.

Having no use for two hundred kegs of beer, they were emptied into the harbor at Honolulu, Hawaii. Now what do we want with a country like that?

Any man who can hypnotize a few Republican legislators may find profitable employment until January 12th at Columbus, Ohio.

From the things being said about Hanna we should judge that somebody had raked over some rubbish pile that he had left behind.

The great caution of the police in some cases is sure to suggest the turning on of the water to keep it from freezing.

The pen ought to be mightier than the sword, for it gets so much more practice.

Justice John's great preventative cure reads very much like a patent medicine advertisement.

Feels as He Looks.

Patience—What is the cheapest looking thing you ever saw about a bargain counter?

Patrice—A husband waiting for his wife. Yonkers Statesman.

Toil vs. Toilet.

Mabel wears fine silken hose
Purchased with her papa's rocks;
But the old man always goes
Around in ten-cent cotton socks.
—Chicago News.

Man of Family.

Dr. Smiley—Ah, professor, is your little one a boy or a girl?

Professor Dremey—Why—er—yes. We call it John. It must be a boy, I think.—Judge.

Utterly Discarded.

"He doesn't seemsto amount to much in the community?"

"No. He's so unimportant that nobody ever sends him a calendar."—Washington Star.

Improving.

"How is your wife geeting on?"

"She's improving slowly. She is not well enough to attend to her household duties yet, but yesterday she was out shopping."—Tit-Bits.

Not Contested.

A story at hand describing a love scene between the hero and a heroine says: "He wooed her with a will." That's a good way, especially if the wooer is old and the will is in her favor.—Chicago Tribune.

Love's Labor Lost.

"Louise coaxed her mother for an hour before she secured permission to accept Mr. Widderly's Christmas gift."

"Well?"

"And then he didn't send her anything." Chicago Record.

Could Not Eat It.

"Don't leave the table," said the landlady, as her new boarder rose from his scanty breakfast.

"I must, madam. It's hardwood, and my teeth are not what they used to be."—Detroit Free Press.

Soothed.

She fell upon the ice walk;
He rushed unto her side.
"And are you hurt, fair maid?" the man
Solicitously cried.
She took his hand and rose, and then
Forgot her pain, for he
Had taken her to be a maid—
And she was 33!
—Chicago Record.

AFTERMATH.

Rev. Thomas Dixon, of New York will be absent from his pulpit three Sundays during the present winter, and has engaged Eugene Debs and Mrs. Lease to speak in his place. Mrs. Lease's text will be "Christ or Caesar?"

* * *

Mrs. James Baker, living near Frankfort, Del., recently gave birth to four children, two boys and two girls, all of whom are doing well The mother is forty years of age.

* * *

E. Triplett, president of the Agricultural and Mechanical College for colored people near Rodney, Miss., was assassinated two nights ago while on his way to attend prayer meeting. There is no clue to the assassin.

* * *

The London Daily Mail asserts that E. J. Ratcliffe, the actor who was recently sentenced in New York to imprisonment for wife-beating, is a bigamist, and the paper prints an interview with Ratcliffe's English wife who is living in London.

* * *

Ex-Judge John F. Dillon, who for many years was private counsel to the late J. Gould, and is now counsel to the Gould family, recently had the misfortune to break his leg and is now confined in his house.

* * *

The Concord Monitor, Senator Chandler's paper, prints an editorial article over the Senator's signature strongly advocating the free coinage of silver. The argument is the same of all free silverites that the gold standard has caused great distress, that the demonetization of silver has appreciated the value of gold and so caused a reduction of prices, and so on.

* * *

The departmental clerks in Washington are in a state of mind, the trouble being that it is proposed to utilize time clocks in the various bureaus to register their arrival and departure. The clerks resent the introduction of the clocks on the ground that they imply habitual tardiness.

* * *

Bishop J. N. Fitzgerald, the new president of the Ocean Grove, N. J. Camp meeting Association has gone to Mexico where he will preside over the various conferences of the Methodist Episcopal church.

* * *

The little town of Valdosta, Ga., boasts that from $25,000 to $50,000 will be paid during the present week in dividends by the incorporated establishments which do business in that town.

WIDELY ENDORSED.

Judge R. C. Jackson Liberally Supported By the Democrats of His Circuit.

Editor of The Times:

Sir,—Judge R. C. Jackson, who is a candidate for re-election to the fifteenth judicial circuit has the endorsement of sixty out of eighty-six lawyers in his circuit. He has testimonials from three out of the five members of the Democratic committee of the Ninth Congressional district. He has the endorsement of thirteen hundred Democrats of the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit, all of which were obtained in less than a week's time, the friends of Judge Jackson not having deemed it necessary to obtain the endorsement of individual citizens until it was found that his opponents were doing so. He is endorsed by thirteen out of sixteen of the county Democratic Committeemen of Wythe, save the county clerk, who endorsed no one. All of the county officers of Carroll and a majority of those of Pulaski. Of the lawyers endorsing him, over forty are Democrats, more than twice the number of Democrats endorsing all the other candidates.

Judge Jackson supported Judge Williams for Congress and continued fifty dollars to the campaign fund, paying the same to the county chairman, the proper party to whom it should have been paid.

Judge Jackson is endorsed by all of the Democratic members of the bar of Wythe except five, one of whom is a candidate and another the brother-in-law of a candidate. There are twenty-six members of the bar of Wythe. He has the unanimous endorsement of the Carroll bar, thirteen out of seventeen of the Pulaski bar and sixteen out of twenty-four of the Tazewell bar, the county of one of his opponents. These lawyers represent at least three times as much practice as the lawyers endorsing all of his opponents.

A. A. CAMPBELL,
Richmond, Va., Jan. 4 1898.

"Fight On, Judge Jackson."

Editor of The Times:

Sir:—Certain allusions personal to myself having been made in your paper of date, January 4th, in an article headed "Fight on Judge Jackson," in which among other things it was stated "while Judge Jackson supported Palmer and Buckner, it is said he not only voted for his friend, Judge Williams, for Congress, but made a handsome voluntary contribution to his campaign fund." As to the handsome voluntary contribution to my campaign fund, I can only state I never knew or heard of it until since this judgeship fight began before the Legislature, when I was told for the first time that it had been stated that Judge Jackson contributed a small amount to our campaign fund. There was no gold standard, so-called Democratic candidate for Congress in my district.

In the same article it is stated that, "that he, Judge Jackson, is a man in the prime of life, a lawyer of recognized ability and has given satisfaction on the bench." It is equally true that his opponents are men in the prime of life, are lawyers of recognized ability, equal if not superior, to Judge Jackson and will give satisfaction if elevated to the bench.

It is further stated in said article, and Mr. Massie, of Pulaski, quoted as author of the statement, that "there was no question that Judge Jackson was the choice of a majority of the Democrats of the district."

I beg leave most respectfully to differ from Mr. Massie as to this statement and to assert most positively that in my judgment Judge Jackson is not the choice of a majority of the Democrats of our district, on the contrary the great mass of our Democrats are loyal and true to the principles of our party and have no sympathy with men who bolted the party organization and supported the gold standard ticket.

The article further states that "Judge Jackson has the support of about three-fourths of the lawyers of the circuit, and that the bar of his own county (meaning Wythe) is practically unanimous for him."

In two of the counties of the circuit, to wit: Bland and Giles, the bar is unanimous in its opposition to Judge Jackson. In Wythe county eight members of the bar to wit: Walker and Caldwell, Bolling and Stanley, C. D. Thomas, J. J. A. Powell, H. M. Henser and myself, are opposed to the election of Judge Jackson and of whom five are well known Democrats.

Respectfully,
SAMUEL W. WILLIAMS,
Richmond, Va., January 4, 1898.

Editor of The Times:

Sir,—At Dr. Upshur's request, I desire you to correct in your next issue a mistake in your last Sunday's issue (January 2d). The wife and mother of Mr. W. D. Cooper (one or both) were with him during his stay in the Old Dominion Hospital, in constant attendance at his bedside, and during his last hours, his brother and the family physician (from Maryland) were also with him. S. H. CABANISS,
Superintendent Old Dominion Hospital.

For Prison Reform.

The Protestant Ministers' Alliance, of Norfolk, adopted a resolution calling upon the senators and delegates from Norfolk in the General Assembly of the State to use their best efforts in having a law passed looking to prison reform in Virginia. The proposed law contemplates separate cells for prisoners confined in the penitentiary and other prisons of the State; modern sanitary arrangements; the classification of prisoners ,looking especially to the keeping of the young in crime from associating with more hardened criminals; the improvement of the penitentiary plant from the annual revenue from that institution; the use of prison labor, first and foremost, in making the prisons as complete and healthful as they can possibly be made for the protection of human life, and the reformation of the characters of those confined therein.

Southern Progress.

The Chattanooga Tradesman says: The volume of business for 1897 was very satisfactory to Southern manufacturers and dealers being larger than for several years, and the Tradesman's many correspondents throughout the South report most favorable prospects for the new year.

The iron market is firm with an increased demand, the contracts for finished material being unusually large for the season. Southern iron is moving freely with promise of greater activity when the spring trade opens. The export trade continues good, with indications of a heavy increase.

Business conditions, generally speaking, are better than for five years; financial distrust no longer disturbs and the outlook for 1898 is most encouraging for the industrial development and business prosperity of our Southern country.

Among the most important new industries for the week, the Tradesman reports the following: The Belton Construction and Surety Company, Charleston, W. Va.; a $10,000 distillery at Dant, Ky.; the Kerrville Electric Light, Heat and Power Company, capital $10,000, Kerrville, Tex.; a $10,000 electric light plant at Kingwood, W. Va.; a $40,000 flouring mill at Florence, Ala., and others at Bee Spring, Ky., and Brownsville, Tenn.; a rod mill at Ashland, Ky.; the St. Joe Mining Company, capital $58,400, at Little Rock, Ark.; the Tahloneka Mining Company, capital $150,000, Earlington, Ky., and the Richland Coal Works, capital $50,000, at Wheeling W. Va. The Butler Clay Company, capital $30,000, has been chartered at Butler, Ga.; cement works at Valley Station, Ky.; the Shawnee Oil Mill and Gin Company, capital $100,000, Shawnee, Tex.; cotton mills will be erected at Blackford, Ark.; and Griffin, Ga.; a knitting mill at Crockett, Tex.; a six-mill tin plant to cost $180,000 at Wheeling, W. Va., and a $50,000 cigar factory at Port Tampa City, Fla.

Woodworking plants will be established at Fisk, Ala.; Beaumont, Tex., and Berkley Springs, W. Va.

Lynchburg's Explanation.

In printing a telegram about the Farmville fire in which it was stated that Lynchburg refused to respond to the call for help, the Advance says:

With regard to the appeal to this city for aid mentioned in the foregoing telegram, an Advance representative was informed at the Fifth Street Fire Department that a telegram was received there at midnight from Farmville, asking them to come there with their engine men and hose. These were all put in readiness and a telephone message was sent to the Norfolk and Western officials at the depot, asking for a train. The reply came that they could not get one ready till 1:30 A. M. Upon receipt of this Captain Thurman telegraphed to the Mayor of Farmville that it would be no use for the fire company's going there as they could not get there in time to be of service. So the horses were unharnessed and the men went back to their rooms. Shortly after this another message came from the railroad company that they could send them in a few minutes, but the chief then considered it too late to start to be of ony service.

Mistake of Cotton Planters.

A Florida subscriber sends to the Savannah Morning News a communication in which he expresses the opinion that the cotton planters in trying to put a limit to the production of cotton are doing just the thing which will tend to increase the cotton acreage. According to his view the greater the number of conventions the cotton planters hold, and the greater the number of resolutions relative to reducing the acreage which they pass, the larger the acreage will be.

Acted Well His Part.

Governor O'Ferrall, whose term of office as Governor has expired, has been in public life since before the war. He has been county clerk, judge, member of the Legislature, Congressman and Governor, and served as a colonel in the Confederate army during the war, and in every position he has acted well his part. "There all the honor lies."—Fredericksburg Free Lance.

PICKETT CAMP AUXILIARY

Holds Regular Meeting—Elect Officers to Serve for the Year.

Pickett Camp Auxiliary held its regular meeting at its hall, corner Fifth and Broad streets, Monday at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Committee on Found Party reported generous donations of fuel, provisions, money and clothing, for which they return thanks. Baskets of groceries were sent to a number of needy families, also clothing and fuel.

The Auxiliary is in a very flourishing condition, and new members are added at each meeting. Committees were appointed, to serve for the coming year, to distribute the groceries furnished by the Auxiliary each month in different parts of the city. There was also a Committee on Ways and Means appointed.

The following officers for the year were elected: Mrs. E. V. Chesley, president; Mrs. Dr. Stratton, vice-president; Mrs. M. A. Burgess, secretary; Mrs. C. J. Johnson, financial secretary; Mrs. B. W. Riddick, treasurer.

Much interest is manifested in the Confederate Home for Needy Widows of Confederate Soldiers, and plans are being made to add to the home fund.

Locomotive Works' Contract.

Messrs. R. Atkinson, mechanical superintendent of the Canadian Pacific, Montreal, Quebec; Wm. Garstang, superintendent motive power, Big Four, Indianapolis, Ind.; and M. R. Coutant, mechanical engineer, Wabash System, Springfield, Ill., are in the city settling the details of the recent contracts for engines made with the roads which they represent by the Richmond Locomotive and Machine Works.

These gentlemen will probably be here several days in connection with this matter.

James Kitchen Pardoned.

Governor Tyler yesterday morning indulged in his first act of executive clemency by granting a pardon to James H. Kitchen, who in October last was convicted of petit larceny in the Hustings Court of Richmond and sentenced to six months imprisonment in the city jail.

The Governor gives as his reason for pardoning Kitchen, that the latter had to have his leg amputated on account of some disease of his knee, and that he could not receive the proper treatment in jail.

The New Manual.

The manual of the Senate and House of Delegates of Virginia for the session of 1897-98 has just been completed and sent out by Colonel John Bell Bigger, the clerk of the House of Delegates.

For many sessions the able and efficient clerk has compiled this little book, and many of them are laid away as souvenirs of the Legislature and tributes of Col. Bigger's kindly courtesy.

Borne to the Tomb.

The funeral of Mrs. George C. Davis, who died Sunday at Danville, was held from No. 314 south Cherry street yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock, the remains arriving yesterday morning at 6 o'clock.

The funeral of Mrs. Emily C. McCann, who died Monday at Williamsburg, took place in this city yesterday morning at 11 o'clock, the interment being at Hollywood.

Captain Parks the Orator.

Captain R. S. Parks has been selected as the orator to deliver the annual address before R. E. Lee Camp, No. 1, C. V., on "The Life and Character of General R. E. Lee" on Wednesday, January 19th, at 8 o'clock P. M., in Lee Camp Hall, on which occasion the camp will have their annual camp-fire in honor of the birthday of General Lee.

Powhatan Club Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Powhatan Club will be held at the club-house tomorrow night. At this meeting the officers for the ensuing year will be elected, and it is rumored that there will be lively contests for several of the offices, wherefore the braves will probably muster in force.

THE KILBY SHOOTING.

Young Crawford to Have Further Examinations for Killing Matthew Stevenson

ASHLAND, VA., Jan. 4.—Special.—Magistrate C. B. Wood held an investigation this afternoon at Kilby, to find out if there was sufficient evidence against Burton Crawford for the killing of Matthews Stevenson (colored), to justify a trial. It was decided to issue a warrant and hold a trial to-morrow at 10:30 o'clock at Kilby. The verdict of the Coroner's jury was that the killing was accidental, but Stevenson's relatives now claim that they have additional evidence against Mr. Crawford.

Woolen Factory Burned.

WINCHESTER, VA., Jan. 4.—Special.—The woollen factory situated about one mile from Winchester on the Front Royal road, owned and operated by Messrs. C. A., Thomas and Hunter Williams, three brothers, was completely destroyed by fire this morning. The fire originated in the carding room on the third floor and is supposed to have been the result of spontaneous combustion.

The factory was built about five years ago, and thousands of dollars' worth of new and improved machinery had been added to the equipment. Hundreds of pounds of wool were stored in the upper portion of the building, and many yards of manufactured goods were in bales, waiting shipment.

All were destroyed and the loss has been estimated to be between $10,000 and $20,000, with only $2,000 insurance.

He Stole Brasses.

James Davis, charged with breaking into a freight car and stealing a lot of brasses, was tried in the Hustings Court yesterday and sentenced to thirty days in jail and to pay a fine of one cent.